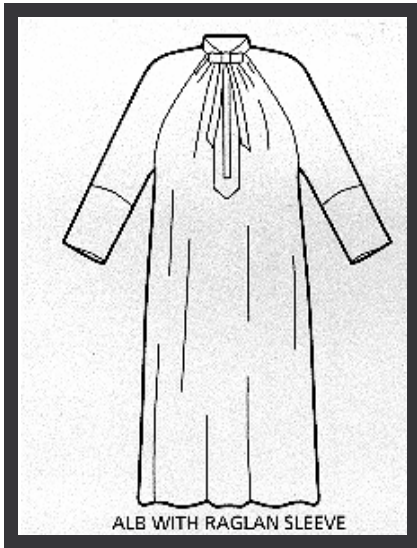


Making a Raglan Sleeve Alb:



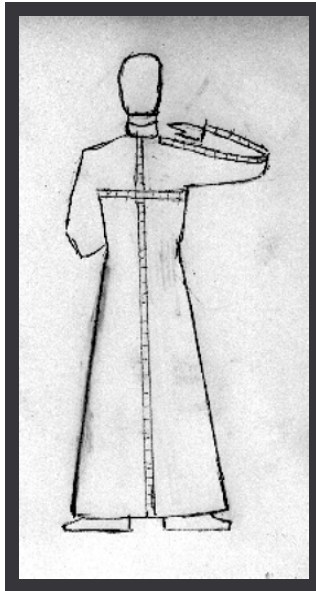
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Measuring for an alb

Notes:

1. When measuring the priest for an alb I have found it best to take the measurements below. For the neck size measure the priest in his cassock around the cassock collar. When measuring for the sleeve length, measure from side collar seam where it meets the body of the cassock down the shoulder and arm to the wrist. This give you a more accurate measurement rather than using their shirt sleeve length which is measured from the middle of the back.



Priest's Alb Measurements

1. Height _____
2. Suit size _____
3. Back cassock length plus 1" _____
4. Front cassock length plus 1" _____
5. Neck--around cassock collar _____
6. Chest _____
7. Waist _____
8. Sleeve length--measure from side neck
seam down the shoulder to the wrist. _____

Alb size chart

<u>Size</u>	<i>Height</i>	<i>Back Length</i>	<i>Shirt Sleeve Length</i>	<i>Sleeve- neck shoulder to wrist Length</i>	<i>Shoulder length</i>	<i>Neck band</i>
X-small	5'3" - 5'5"	54"	(31")	29"	6 1/2" +flat felled seam	19"
small	5'6"-5'8"	56"	(32")	30"	6 5/8" +flat felled seam	19"
medium	5'9"- 5'11"	58"	(33")	31"	6 3/4" +flat felled seam	20
Large	6'0" - 6'3"	60"	(34")	32"	6 7/8" +flat felled seam	21"
Ex-large	6'4"& over	62"	(35")	33"	7" +flat felled seam	21-22"

Making a pattern

When making patterns it is best to make a master pattern from which you will trace a working pattern. The master pattern is a permanent pattern and the working pattern is the one used to cut your material. The master pattern should be made on a heavy paper such as brown wrapping paper about 30" wide or a sign paper with a 1" grid may be bought from a sign company. For the working pattern buy the gridded pattern tracing material that is available at a local fabric store.

If using a plain paper measure a piece of paper 6" longer than the measurement required. Assuming that the lengthwise edges are straight, the top and bottom edges maybe straightened by turning down a short section of paper, make sure the side edges match exactly. Crease and cut along fold. It is very important that all the edges are straight.

Beginning at the upper left hand corner mark the paper at 1" intervals. Using these markings draw a 1" square grid on the entire paper.

Using these gridded papers you can to begin making your master pattern.

Sources for alb patterns

In order to make the pattern an old alb which can be taken apart maybe used. Press and starch the pieces and pin them to the gridded paper. Trace around the pieces in pencil. Unpin the pieces. With a straight edge and a curved ruler refine the drawings and mark your seam allowances. A 1/2 " seam allowance except at the neckline 3/8 "and a 3" hem allowance is usually used.

Once a master pattern has been made traced a working pattern onto the gridded tracing material.

Preshrinking the linen

Linen shrinks 1" to 2" per yard. It therefore must be preshrunk before cutting. For a medium size plain alb 5 1/4 yards linen is need. When shrunk it will be about 5yds. For a taller priest additional yardage may be needed.

One method to shrink the linen is to fill the washing machine with hot water and let it soak until the water cools. (You then have the option of putting it in the dryer on medium heat. When dry, refill the washer to wet the linen again) Spin out the water. Remove from washer and put in a plastic bag and put it in the refrigerator for a few hours. Iron the linen while quite damp. Fold in half and roll it on a fabric board obtained from a fabric store so that it will be neat and easy to work with.

Make narrow french seams 1/4" to 3/8" deep or finish seams by serging to 3/8" deep seam. Make flat felled seams when joining the sleeves.

Construction

1. Pin and stitch the front placket to the alb front.
2. With right sides together pin and stitch the front sleeve to the back sleeve. Press seam toward the front sleeve. Trim the front sleeve seam only to 1/4". Turn under the back sleeve seam and stitch to make a flat felled seam.
3. With right sides together pin and stitch sleeve front to alb front and sleeve back to alb back. Serge the seams and press toward sleeve.
4. Gather the alb front and back neckline. Apply alb collar.
- 5 With right sides together pin and stitch underarm seam. Serge the seam and press toward alb front.
6. Apply sleeve cuff.
7. Finish bottom edge either by applying snap tape on an alb top or with a 2 1/2' hem on a full length alb.